

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 9, line 8, insert the following text as the description of Figure 7.

Figure 7 is a schematic side view depiction of a marker tip at the distal end of the catheter used in implementing the method of the invention.

At page 29, line 19, insert the following text:

It is preferred to place some means for locating distal end 14 during the access and location process. This is preferably done by applying a marker 46, as shown in FIG. 7, to distal end 14 which is detected during the access and location process. If access and location is accomplished using some form of x-ray radiation, marker 46 is preferably radiopaque. Radiopaque marker 46 renders at least a portion of distal tip 14 opaque to x-rays, enabling the tip to be observed via fluoroscopy or via x-ray during access and location of catheter 10.

In a preferred embodiment, radiopaque marker 46 comprises tantalum powder dispersed in a matrix composed of a biocompatible adhesive, such as those discussed above. Ordinarily, radiopaque marker 46 will be premolded prior to insertion into the lumen 38. After radiopaque marker 46 has been inserted into the lumen 38, a thin coating of the same biocompatible adhesive is preferably applied to the exterior of the hemispherical portion 48. Other materials may also be suitable for radiopaque marker 46, such as barium or platinum materials.

Alternately, the radiographic marker 46 may be chosen of a material that has sufficient radiodensity for visualization during radiologic procedures, but in powdered form that is dispersed in the catheter tip at the time the catheter tip is molded.

Alternatively, marker 46 may be composed of a material that is compatible to nuclear magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to enable the tip to be detected during an MRI scan. Preferred material for such a marker 46 is platinum, though barium, tantalum, and similar materials are also suitable. Regardless of whether radiography or MRI is being utilized, the goal of providing a radiographic marker 46 is to enable the operator to accurately detect the precise location of the tip to facilitate placement and later verification of the integrity and position of distal end 14 of catheter 10.

Please insert into the drawings the attached “new sheet” for Figure 7 and **replace** the original pages 9, 14 and 29-34 with the attached Replacement Sheets for pages 9, 14 and 29-35 (see Attachment 2). A marked up copy of the amendments to the pages 9, 14, 29-30 is provided for Examiner’s Convenience (see Attachment 3). Please note that pages 31-35 contain the same text as the original pages 30-34. However, due to the incorporated material at page 29, the pages have been renumbered.